

✓ 283396  
**Latimer, Becky**

**From:** Latimer, Becky  
**Sent:** Friday, March 15, 2019 12:38 PM  
**To:** 't'  
**Subject:** RE: Please stop Duke Energy's hidden mandatory fee hike

Dear Ms. Mary Lash,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Letter of Protest/Comments to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina. Your Letter of Protest/Comments will be placed in the Protest File of the Docket listed below and on the Commission's Website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).

- Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order

A Protestant is an individual objecting on the ground of private or public interest to the approval of an Application, Petition, Motion or other matters which the Commission may have under consideration. A Protestant may offer sworn testimony but cannot cross-examine witnesses offered by other parties.

According to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, filing a Protest does not make you a Party of Record. A Protestant desiring to become an Intervenor (i.e., a Party of Record) in a proceeding before the Commission may file a Petition for Intervention within the time prescribed by the Commission.

You can follow this Docket and other daily filings made at the Commission by subscribing to the Commission's Email Subscriptions at this link: <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Email>; or you can follow the individual Docket at the link listed below:

Docket No. 2018-319-E - Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an Accounting Order - <https://dms.psc.sc.gov/Web/Dockets/Detail/116872>

If we may be of further assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Becky Latimer  
 Clerks Office/Administrative Coordinator

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
 803-896-5100  
 Sign up for Meeting Agenda Alerts: Text PSCAGENDAS to 39492

-----Original Message-----

**From:** 't'  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 14, 2019 9:03 PM  
**To:** PSC\_Contact <Contact@psc.sc.gov>  
**Subject:** Please stop Duke Energy's hidden mandatory fee hike

Dear SC Public Service Commission,

The average annual income from social security in South Carolina is \$17,292. In 2017, Duke CEO Lynn Good received \$21 million dollars in compensation, making her the highest paid utility CEO in the country. In that year, Duke Energy made \$3 billion in profits.

Duke's proposal to triple the monthly basic facilities fee from \$8 to \$28, or \$336 a year before the customer uses a watt of electricity, would be the highest mandatory fee of any investor-owned utility in the United States. As we have heard, this increase would be cruelly regressive, having the most severe impact on poorer citizens, including seniors. And despite the fact that every month Duke customers' bills offer tips for reducing energy consumption, the proposed fee structure would actually discourage energy conservation. In fact, heavier consumers of energy, including the wealthier customers, would be rewarded by lower rates on higher volumes of energy.

Duke has claimed that it needs the proposed fee hike to maintain a 10.5% "return on equity," or profitability, to its shareholders. Duke customers on Social Security will receive a 2.8% cost of living adjustment this year.

I'm asking the South Carolina Public Service Commission to deny this immoral, anti-environmental fee structure, and I ask Duke Energy to reconsider its plan to increase profits at the expense of its poorest customers.

I do not require updates from the PSC on new matters in the docket.

Copies to: SC Public Service Commission and my state legislators

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary Lash

Piedmont, SC 29673-9301